

Spartan Speak Newsletter

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2018

Principal's Message

On behalf of the staff at Lorne Park Secondary School, I want to wish everyone in the LP Community much happiness, health, and success for 2018. The great thing about semester two starting at the end of January each year is that it provides a new opportunity for high school students to renew their personal resolutions for school that may have waned since September. I know all of our students are resolved to achieve great things in the year ahead.

We have had a great first half of the school year. On November 23rd we celebrated our students' high academic excellence at our Awards Assembly. We recognized more than 500 students (half of the students at Lorne Park SS) who achieved Honours Standing in their academics during the previous school year. At that ceremony we handed out awards for the highest mark in each course, with many students achieving marks of 99% and 100%.

Our tradition of excellence continued to be demonstrated in our athletics programs. Both our Senior and Junior Boys' Football Teams won ROPSSAA Gold, and each continued on to win the Ontario championships at OFSSAA. Our girls field hockey team won ROPSSAA silver. Our girls' flag football team advanced to the ROPSSAA semi-finals. Our cross-country running team had a highly successful fall with our Junior Girls' team winning ROPSSAA silver and a member of our junior boys' team finishing 7th. Five runners advanced to OFSSAA. Our Girls' Golf Team won a silver medal in ROPSSAA and advanced to OFSSAA. We have had excellent fall seasons with girls basketball, boys

volleyball, and ping pong. We are currently in the midst of the winter sports season with boys' basketball, girls volleyball, boys' and girls' ice hockey, swimming, Nordic skiing, curling, and badminton well underway.

Lorne Park continues to demonstrate excellence in the Arts. Our Senior and Junior Bands and School Choirs have completed multiple performances at the Awards Ceremony, LP Music and Football Festival, Remembrance Day, Vocal Night, and the Holiday Music Evening. Our Bands are competing at the Golden Horseshoe Music Festival on February 21. Our biggest musical event of the year is coming at the end of April with our multi-night production of the musical Grease! Our Drama program is looking forward to continued success with their participation in the upcoming Ontario Drama Festival this month. Our Visual Arts program continues to install amazing pieces throughout our school and showcased their work to the community at our Visual Arts Night on January 19.

Student leadership is central to Lorne Park Secondary School's tradition of excellence. Our Student Activity Council ran a highly successful Fall Frenzy Semi-Formal event in November which was attended by more than 300 students. They also led a fun filled Halloween celebration at the end of October, and have run two fund raising events for cancer research. In December our Mentors welcomed more than 200 elementary students from our feeder schools and led them through orientation activities to help them get prepared for high school. They also led orientation activities for our new Grade 9 students in September, and ran a workshop for our Grade 9 students on effective study skills before semester 1 exams. Our Model United Nations team traveled to Montreal in November to compete in the

international Model UN competition. Our team represented LP well and were decorated with the Nellie McClung Advocacy Award for their success. They are currently planning a trip to a competition in Vancouver this spring. Our Free the Children club ran a fundraising event for the WE organization and in December ran a toy drive that is associated with the CTV News initiative. Our SAVE environmental team recently raised money and planted a tree on school grounds, and is now working to reduce the use of plastic in the school. Our Wellness Council is planning many events for the coming months including Wellness Wednesday messages and Yoga Club on Mondays. Our French Council regularly arranges special events such as films, potlucks, topic of the day, and guest chef experiences that provide students with additional opportunities to practice their French. Our Athletic Council ran a highly successful school-wide fun run and sold more than 500 tickets to our Football-Music Festival, raising money for our music and athletics programs. Our Enhanced Council, in partnership with Mentors and Athletic Council, was successful in filling two van loads of canned food and socks in their successful holiday charity event. They are looking forward to organizing a blood drive this spring at LP in conjunction with Canadian Blood Services. So many great things are happening at Lorne Park as a result of our exceptional student leaders.

I have a few staffing announcements to share with you. First of all, we congratulate Mr. Chudzinski on his long and successful career as a teacher and on his retirement from the Peel District School Board. Congratulations to our teachers Ms. Vardy and Mr. Koziarski who were recently promoted to the role of Vice Principal! Mr. Koziarski has already been placed at Meadowvale Secondary School. Ms. Vardy will continue in her role at Lorne Park as she awaits her placement. We say good bye to Mr. Lascot who has completed his long term occasional teaching position at Lorne Park and will now move on to other teaching opportunities throughout the Board.

We welcome back Ms. Roblin who has returned to Lorne Park after her leave, and will be teaching Visual Arts this semester. Welcome back to Ms. Dzolganovski who

returns to Lorne Park to teach English during semester two. Welcome to Ms. Rawski who will be teaching Health and Physical Education, as well as Special Education at LP this semester.

I would also like to thank our School Council for all of their hard work in support of our school. Thanks to their fundraising efforts, Lorne Park has been able to purchase very expensive school equipment over the course of the past year, including an outdoor hydration station, portable viewing bleachers, architectural scales, a Timpani drum, and hallway bench. As well they have arranged some excellent guest speakers that have informed staff, students, and parents about post-secondary transitions and about concussions in sport.

We have had an outstanding first half of the year. All the best to everyone for a great Semester 2.

Craig Caslick
Principal

HAPPY RETIREMENT

After 18 years of teaching at Lorne Park, we will be saying Happy Retirement to a great math teacher, Mr. Chudzinski! With a Masters degree in mathematics, Mr. Chudzinski worked as a Vice Principal and Principal in his home country of Poland before coming to Canada in 1987. Interestingly, before Lorne Park, Mr. Chudzinski wrote the program for Highway 407 from 1993-1996! During his teaching years he was awarded the prestige's 'Premier's Award for Teaching Excellence' and the 'Teacher Recognition Award' which he was presented in 2008. Not only was Mr. Chudzinski a great teacher, but he was also active outside the classroom, including the creation of the highly sought after points program at Lorne Park. Thanks to his efforts, student involvement is recognized through receiving Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum keys! Mr. Chudzinski was always willing to help students, he voluntarily hosted the 'Counting On You' extra help math program every Tuesday and Wednesday after school. I am grateful to have had him for two math courses, not only do I understand the curriculum but I look forward to his class every day! His lessons are always thorough and interjected with jokes that will crack you up. I am sure many students would agree that he is approachable, encouraging and has a good sense of humour. Like other students, I will miss his daily "official good afternoon" at the beginning of each class, his witty jokes and his intriguing stories. Well respected by students and parents, we all appreciate the heart and effort that Mr. Chudzinski gave Lorne Park students every day. Since he loves to travel, we all wish him many years of touring and great times with his wife, family and friends.

Congratulations on your retirement Mr. Chudzinski. We will miss you, and thank you for making a difference in the lives of so many students!

Your student,
Sarah Piacentino

MUSIC NOTES



2017-2018 Music Exec

Congratulations to our 2017-2018 Music Exec members for a superb start to the year: Caleigh Copelin (Vocal Co-Chair), Ingrid Cui (Instrumental Co-Chair), Paul Huang (Grade 11 Rep), Caitlin Wong (Grade 10 Rep), Kielen Scrimgeour (Grade 9 Rep), Maggie Wozny (Vocal Rep), Kevin Hu (Secretary), Emma Kuryluk (Treasurer), Andrew Scott (Publicity Head), Scott Sipkens (Tech Director), Alwaz Aziz (Music Librarian), Jasmine Smith (Musical Assistant).

Music Pancake Retreat

On Saturday, September 30, the Music Exec hosted a pancake breakfast and teambuilding retreat for all participating music students. Students enjoyed delicious pancakes cooked by our very own Exec members, followed by fun teambuilding activities.

Fall Performances

The Senior Concert Band has been very busy this semester with several successful performances, including Grade 8/9 Parents' Night in early September, the Awards Assembly in October, and Remembrance Day in November. Trumpeters Andrew Scott, Sean Kitson, and Anh Tran made us proud with their superb renditions of the Last Post and Reveille for the Remembrance Day assemblies both here and at Lorne Park Public School. Congratulations to our trumpeters and to the Senior Band for their hard work and excellent performances at these events.

Music-Football Buyout

On Friday, October 13th, the Junior and Senior Concert Bands performed at the first-ever Music-Football buyout event, hosted jointly by the Music and Phys-Ed departments. The highly successful event raised over \$1200 towards new instruments, and the spring musical production of Grease.

Honour Ensembles

On Sat. Nov. 25, over 750 Peel music students auditioned to be in one of the Peel Honour ensembles. The following Lorne Park students were selected to perform in these prestigious ensembles: Alwaz Aziz (Senior Honour Band), Kevin Hu (Senior Honour Band/Honour Jazz), Rachel Kim (Intermediate Honour Band), Al Mohammed (Intermediate Honour Band). These students will be rehearsing over the coming months in preparation for their concert on "Music Monday" - May 7th at the Living Arts Centre. Congratulations on this achievement!

Vocal Music Concert

The Vocal Music Class presented their class concert "The Last 10 Years" on Thurs. Nov. 30. All repertoire was written, performed or revived in films over the last 10 years. Performances from Spartan Singers, The Ritz, the Vocal Class, and grade 12 soloists Caleigh Copelin, Sabah Kahnemuyipour, Wafiya Thoba and Maggie Wozny, delighted the audience. The singers put on an energetic and entertaining show, and all proceeds went to the Ontario Humane Society. Well done!

Winter Music Night

This past December, the Music Department celebrated our "World of Wonder" for our winter music night. Performers worked hard to make the evening a great success. Highlights included the Junior Band's rendition of "Superheroes R Us", the Senior Jazz Ensemble's exciting performance of the classic rock hit "Get it On", the Senior Band performance of Gypsy Dance, and the Vocal Music Class's performance of "You Will be Found". The Spartan Singers' set included the popular song "Some Nights" as well as some enjoyable carols to sing along with, and the Ritz choir gave an entertaining performance, taking us back to the Golden Age with "In

the Still of the Night". The Senior Band finished the concert with a rousing rendition of the School Song, newly arranged by our very own Ryan Tanary! Special thanks to all who helped make the evening possible, especially our MC, Mr. Koziarski!

New Timpani Drums!

Last year, we purchased one new timpani drum from our fundraising proceeds, and this year, we have been fortunate to have received funding from the School Council towards TWO more brand new timpani drums! We plan to replace the remaining fourth timpani drum later this year through our upcoming fundraising projects. These drums provide both the rhythmic and harmonic foundation for all of our concert bands. What a difference it will make to have properly working, easily tunable timpani!! This benefits not only the percussionists, but all concert bands at Lorne Park. Thank you to the School Council, and to the Lorne Park Music parents and community for all of your continued support of the Lorne Park Music Program!

Instrumental Music Clinics

The students from Senior Band and Senior Wind Ensemble will be treated to clinics with esteemed conductor and adjudicator Colin Clarke on February 14th. The clinics are part of the preparation for the upcoming performances at the Musicfest Ontario in Hamilton. Mr. Clarke is the conductor of the Toronto Youth Wind Orchestra, and he is a well-respected adjudicator and clinician for Musicfest Canada. Students in AMU 100 will be on hand to observe the clinics.

Musicfest

On Wednesday, February 21th, the Senior Concert Band, Senior Wind Ensemble, and Senior Jazz Ensemble will be travelling to Hamilton, Ontario to perform at Musicfest Ontario. At the festival, the students will perform for three adjudicators, who will assess their performance and provide a clinic with each group. Please note that students will be at the festival all day, from 10:30 a.m. to approximately 7:30 p.m. Attendance for the performances is mandatory for all members. Permission forms are to be returned by Friday, February 2nd, the

first day of Semester Two. Parents are welcome to attend the festivals to hear their children perform!

Grease! – the Musical

On April 25th, 26th & 27th, Lorne Park will host the musical theatre production of Grease! Many students auditioned for roles in the show, and our talented cast has been hard at work since December. The pit band has just been formed and will be rehearsing along with the cast and crew to create an exciting performance! Come support the show this April – details to follow!



GUIDANCE

Parents are encouraged to continue working with Lorne Park students on planning their High School courses and exploring Post-Secondary options. MyBlueprint Planner (myblueprint.ca/peel) has proven to be a helpful tool and includes great occupational and post-secondary program descriptions for further exploration. Please review your son(s) and/or daughter(s) semester one final marks to help make realistic choices for course selections and to create a realistic High School Plan. Students may request timetable changes for next year courses in mid-February, before the school's timetable is created. The school's timetable is based on the courses our students have requested for next year. After this window to request course changes closes, the opportunity to change courses will be limited as the classes have already been created.

Grade 12 students that have applied to College and University should check their application account to ensure that the marks and courses data is accurate.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Accessing Accommodations at College and University

Every post-secondary institution has different requirements for the documentation required to access accommodations. Some will accept the most recent IEP and some will require a psycho-educational assessment that is no more than 3 years old. **Everywhere is different!** Each student applying to post secondary should be contacting the Disability Services department of each school to inquire about required documentation and minimum timelines required to ensure they will receive academic accommodations in the fall. Any parent/student wanting to discuss concerns regarding post-secondary accommodations should feel free to contact Mrs. Vardy or any member of the Special Education department.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

School Council e-mail address:
lorneparkss.council@peelsb.com

Upcoming School Council meetings for 2017/2018:

Tuesday, February 6th, 2018
Tuesday, March 6th, 2018
Tuesday, April 3rd, 2018
Tuesday, May 1st, 2018
Tuesday, June 5th, 2018